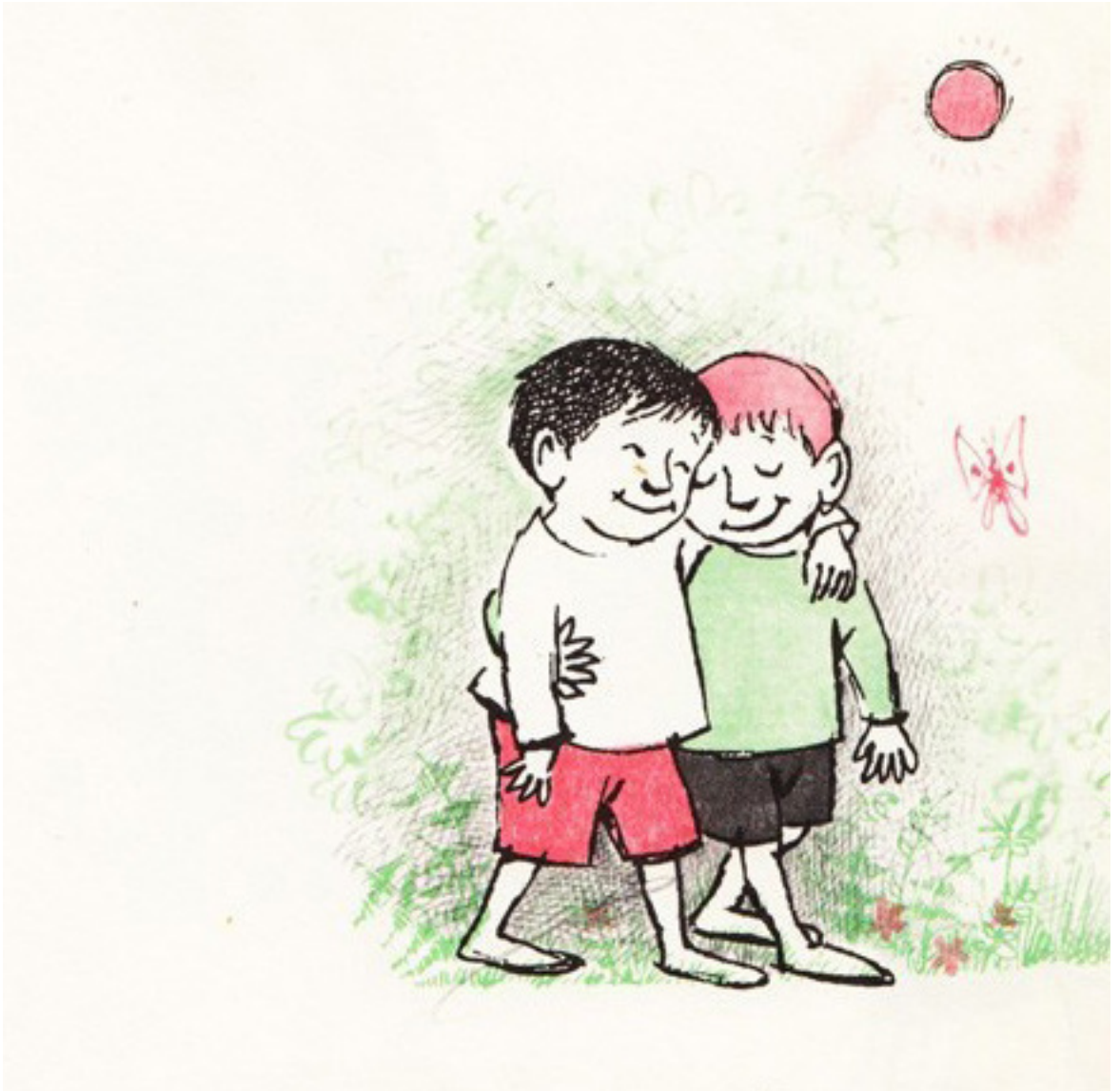




# Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

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25th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 22, 2019 • 9 & 11:15 am



# Welcome to Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

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Whether you are a first-time visitor or a long-time member . . .

Whether you are new to or uncertain about this whole idea of church . . .

Whether you grew up Presbyterian or Baptist or Jewish or agnostic . . .

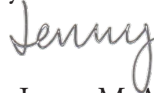
Whether you came with a friend or just wandered in accidentally . . .

Whether you are in search of comfort or wanting to be challenged . . .

Whatever reason brought you to worship today, you are welcome here and you have made us better by being present with us. In the midst of a big and busy city, we are a church that takes seriously Jesus' instructions to love God, love one another, and love our neighbors. Our worship style is traditional and true to our Reformed heritage. At the same time, we seek to bring our faith into conversation with the world around us and the events of our lives.

After worship on Sundays, we gather in our Church House for fellowship, coffee, and cookies. Please join us. We think you'll find us to be a friendly and approachable group of people trying our best to live like Jesus teaches. But if you're looking for a perfect church, we're not it. We don't always get it right. Rather, we're a group of imperfect people who understand how much we all need grace in our lives. And we believe that God's love, which never gives up and never lets go, is for everyone. Including you.

There is a place for you here. We're delighted you've joined us today.



Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt  
Senior Pastor

## Children Are Always Welcome

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Your children are always welcome here at MAPC, including worship. To help with that, Children's Worship Bags are located in the Narthex. Red bags are for 2nd graders and above. Blue bags are for 1st graders and below. Please use the bag that best suits your child. Children can't help but make a bit noise from time to time. Your family's presence is a delight, not a distraction. If it is your preference, children three and under may be taken to the Nursery on the 4th floor. The Narthex and the Children's Library are also available. Speakers provide audio of the service.

## Membership and More Information

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For those interested in exploring the possibility of membership or learning more about who we are and what we do, we periodically host a "Tell Me More About MAPC" conversation. The next gathering will be held October 5, 2019 at 9 am in the Phillips Lounge. Childcare provided with advance request. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo at [lgp@mapc.com](mailto:lgp@mapc.com).

# Order of Worship for the Lord's Day

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*"What is the chief end of humanity? To glorify God and enjoy God forever."*

—*Westminster Confession Question 1*

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## Gathering in God's Name

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Prelude

Gott der Vater, wohn uns bei, BuxWV 190

*Dieterich Buxtehude*  
(1637-1707)

Call to Worship

Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt

Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say, rejoice!

**Do not be afraid, Jesus says,  
I am with you always.**

Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say, rejoice!

**For the Lord our God is with us,  
now until the end of the age.**

Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say, rejoice!

**No longer will I call you servants, Jesus says,  
now I will call you friends.**

\*Hymn 441

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

*St. Thomas*

*\* Please stand in body or in spirit. For hymns, stand when the choir stands.*

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett

**Merciful God,**

**Life can be hard,**

**and when we are afraid or insecure,  
we struggle to be our best selves.**

**The more we need help,**

**the more we insist, "I'm fine."**

**The more we ignore our own limitations,**

**the more we deny the abilities of others.**

**The more we forge our own path,**

**the more we limit the power of your creativity.**

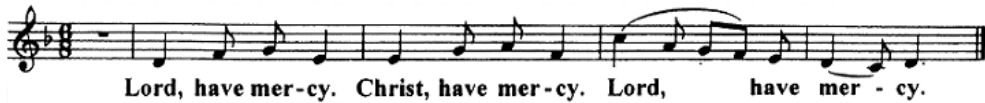
Remind us why you created us for relationships.

Help us to see the beauty in one another,

so that we might encounter more joy. (Silent prayer)

Lord, Have Mercy

*John Weaver*



Assurance of God's Grace

... Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

\*Gloria Patri

*Paul Vasile*



Text: Gloria Patri (2nd Century), adapted Paul Vasile

Music: © 2008 Paul Vasile

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\*Summary of God's Law

... "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment?" Jesus said to him:

**"You shall love the Lord your God**

**with all your heart and with all your soul**

**and with all your mind and with all your strength.**

**This is the first and greatest commandment.**

**And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.**

**On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."**

\*Passing of the Peace

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Prayer for Illumination

Natalie Berhow (9 am)  
Corinne Catarozoli (11:15 am)

Old Testament Lesson

Jeremiah 8:18—9:1  
(OT page 667)

\*Psalm 79:1-9

*Southwell*



1. Re - mem - ber not, O God, the sins of long a - go;  
2. O Lord, our Sav - ior, help, and glo - ri - fy your name;  
3. Then, safe with - in your fold, we will ex - alt your name;



in ten - der mer - cy vis - it us, dis - tressed and hum - bled low.  
de - liv - er us from all our sins and take a - way our shame.  
our thank - ful hearts with songs of joy your good - ness will pro - claim.

Text: © The Psalter, 1912; Music: Daman's Psalter, 1579  
*Public Domain*

Lesson with the Children and Youth

*Children's Worship: Preschoolers through 2nd graders are dismissed to the Phillips Lounge.  
Children will return during the Doxology to participate in the rest of the service.*

New Testament Lesson

Philemon 1-21  
(NT page 203)

Sermon

Friendship Can Save Your Life

Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt

Responding to God's Word

\*Hymn 515 (11:15 am)

Now To Your Table Spread

*Love Unknown*

**We believe in one true and living God.**

**God is greater than our understanding.**

**We do not fully comprehend who God is or how God works.**

**The Lord's requirements are not always what we think.**

**The Lord's care for us is not always what we want.**

**Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.**

**We can have confidence in God's coming kingdom  
even in the darkest of times.**

**Jesus is the long expected Savior.**

**He was born of woman as is every child,**

**yet born of God's power as was no other child.**

**Through his birth, life, death, and resurrection,**

**he brings about the relationship between God and humanity  
that God always intended.**

**The Holy Spirit is God active in the world.**

**The Spirit makes real in us what God has done for us.**

**As long as we live, we will struggle with sin,**

**but the Spirit's presence assures us**

**God will complete what has been begun in us.**

**We must not set our ultimate reliance on any other help.**

**We must not yield unconditional obedience to any other power.**

**We must not love anyone or anything more than we love God.**

**We praise and enjoy God.**

**To worship God is highest joy.**

**To serve God is perfect freedom. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

*...Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

## Presenting Our Offerings to God

Anthem (11:15 am)

Draw Us In the Spirit's Tether (1945)

*Harold Friedell*  
(1905-1958)

Draw us in the Spirit's tether,  
For when humbly in Your name  
Two or three are met together,  
You are in the midst of them;  
Alleluia! Touch we now Your garment's hem.

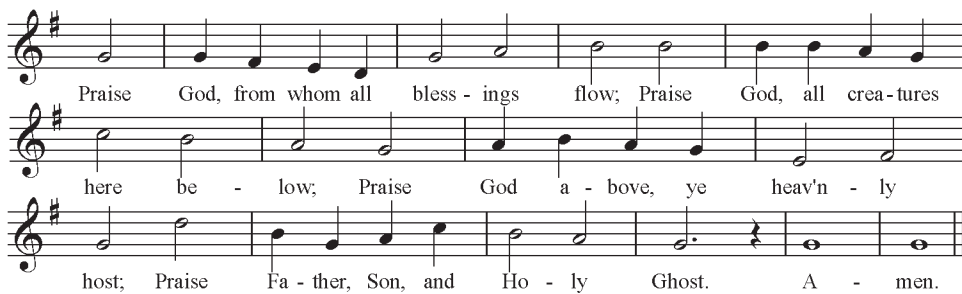
As disciples used to gather  
In the name of Christ to sup,  
Then with thanks to God the Father  
Break the bread and bless the cup,  
Alleluia! So now bind our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living  
Make as sacraments of You,  
That by caring, helping, giving,  
We may be disciples true.  
Alleluia! We will serve with faith anew.

—*African-American spiritual*

## \*Doxology

*Old Hundredth*



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea - tures  
here be - low; Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly  
host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

## Celebration of the Lord's Supper

The Invitation to the Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

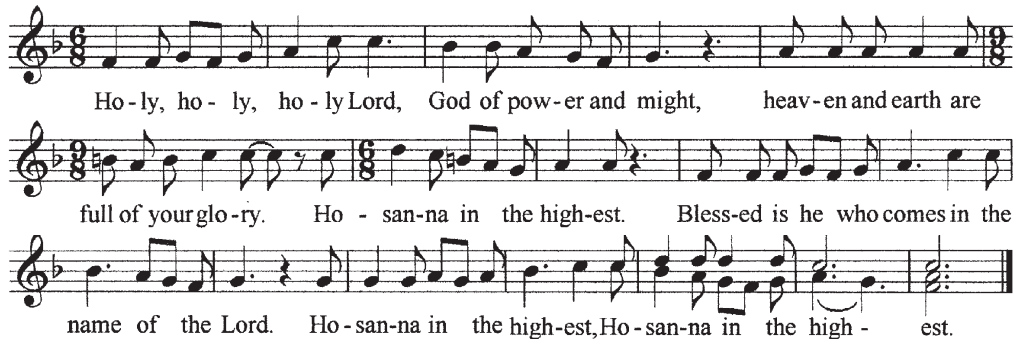
Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

... who forever sing to the glory of your holy name:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are  
 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the  
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Acclamation

... we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

### The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,**

**thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;**

**and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.**

**Amen.**

### Words of Institution

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

**Let us keep the feast.**

### Sharing the Bread and Cup

*The bread you are served is gluten free.*

*The bronzed chalices contain wine; you are invited to take a sip or dip your bread into the cup.*

*The glass chalices contain juice; you are invited to dip your bread into the cup.*

*Those seated in the balcony, please come to the main level to receive the elements.*



*There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole.  
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.*

Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain,  
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.

If you cannot sing like angels, if you cannot preach like Paul,  
You can tell the love of Jesus, and say, "He died for all."

—*African-American spiritual*

### Congregational Song (11:15 am)

**Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;  
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

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### Prayer at the Conclusion of the Meal

#### \*Hymn

#### For the Healing of the Nations

*Westminster Abbey*



1. For the heal - ing of the na - tions, Lord, we pray with  
2. Lead your peo - ple in - to free - dom, From de - spair your  
3. All that kills a - bun - dant liv - ing, Let it from the  
4. You, cre - a - tor God, have writ - ten Your great name on



one ac - cord; For a just and e - qual shar - ing  
world re - lease That, re-deemed from war and ha - tred,  
earth be banned: Pride of sta - tus, race, or school - ing,  
hu - man - kind: For our grow - ing in your like - ness



Of the things that earth af - fords. To a life of  
All may come and go in peace. Show us how, through  
Dog - mas that ob - scure your plan. In our com - mon  
Bring the life of Christ to mind, That by our re -

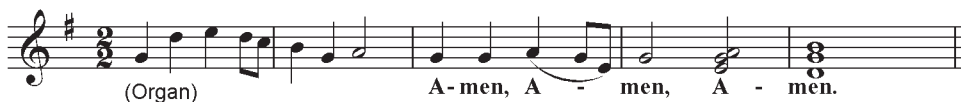


love in ac - tion Help us rise and pledge our word.  
care and good - ness, Fear will die and hope in - crease.  
quest for jus - tice May we hal - low life's brief span.  
sponse and serv - ice Earth its des - ti - ny may find.

\*Benediction

\*Congregational Response

*Weaver*



\*Postlude

Tocatta in G minor

*Johann Pachelbel*  
(1653-1706)

Today's chancel flowers are given to the glory of God  
and in memory of Joyce Tese.

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## Worship Details

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Cover Art

Illustration from "Let's Be Enemies," by Maurice Sendak.

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## Information and Announcements

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Adult Education

The Sunday series, "Looking at Luke," continues this morning with a look at the role of money in the gospel. Join Rev. Beverly Bartlett at 10:10 am in the Parish Hall.

Shelter Open House

Curious about the room in the basement with 12 beds? Come to the shelter today at 1 pm to learn more about this space and the variety of volunteer opportunities. Please contact Rev. Rebecca Heilman at [rmh@mapc.com](mailto:rmh@mapc.com) with any questions or concerns.

Senior Fellowship Lunch

MAPC Seniors and friends will have lunch together today in the Parish Hall at 1 pm following fellowship hour. The suggested donation for lunch is \$10.

Moms' Night Out

MAPC moms gather periodically at an Upper East Side restaurant for dinner and conversation. The next gathering is Thursday, September 26 at 7 pm. When we know how many are coming, we will make reservations. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo, [lgp@mapc.com](mailto:lgp@mapc.com).

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## Weekly Calendar

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Monday, September 23

6:00 pm

Women's Bible Study

Phillips Lounge

Tuesday, September 24

7:00 pm

Session

8th Floor

Wednesday, September 25

12:30 pm

Reading Through the Bible

Phillips Lounge

6:00 pm

Cocaine Anonymous

5th Floor

Thursday, September 26

6:30 pm

Thursday Open Table

Parish Hall

7:00 pm

Moms' Night Out

offsite

7:00 pm

Saint Andrew Chorale Rehearsal

Sanctuary

8:30 pm

Church Choir Rehearsal

Choir Room

Friday, September 27

No events scheduled

Saturday, September 28

No events scheduled

Sunday, September 29

9:00 & 11:15 am

Worship

Sanctuary

9:15 & 11:30 am

Children's Worship

Phillips Lounge

10:00 & 12:30 pm

Fellowship Hour

Lobby

10:10 am

Adult Education: Luke and Food

Parish Hall

10:20 am

Church Choir Rehearsal

Choir Room

1:00 pm

ESL Classes

5th Floor

MADISON AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SURROUNDED BY

Fall Sermon Series  
921 Madison Avenue  
Worship at 9 and 11:15 am  
[www.mapc.com](http://www.mapc.com)

Next week's sermon: Hope Will Lead You Home (Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15)

### Mission Statement

*The mission of the Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church is to bring people into the transforming presence of Jesus Christ through worship, teaching the Word, Christian nurture, and ministry in and to the world. As Christ's ministers, our members are striving to build a community of God's love, justice, and mercy, trusting God to lead us into faithfulness.*

### Ministry Team Staff

The Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt, *Senior Pastor and Head of Staff*

The Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett, *Associate Pastor*

Laura Graham, *Director of the Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church Day School*

The Rev. Rebecca M. Heilman, *Pastoral Resident*

Dr. Andrew E. Henderson, *Director of Music and Organist*

Mary W. Huff, *Associate Director of Music and Director of the NYC Children's Chorus*

Roger S. Pierce, Jr., *Director of Administration and Finance*

Teresa D. Tynes, *Director of Communication*

The Rev. Dr. Fred R. Anderson, *Pastor Emeritus*

Dr. John B. Weaver, *Director of Music and Organist Emeritus*